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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 326. NOVEMBER, 1933.

PURE THOUGHTS. PURE WORDS. PURE DEEDS.

PHIL. IV, 8.—"Think on these things."

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The United Service under the auspices of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland and Unitarian and Free Christian Laymen's League will be held in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, on Sunday, November 19th, at 7 o'clock, when the preacher will be the Rev. E. Savell Hicks, M.A., of Dublin. The usual hospitality will be arranged as in previous years, and it is to be hoped there will be a full house.

* * *

Hallowe'en in Northern Ireland is one of the most joyous festivals of the year, coming with its brightness of mirth and friendliness at the beginning of the dark November days. But why is it "hallowed?" "Blessed be the memory of all Thy saints in our hearts," are words taken from the Ten Services. To that remembrance in ancient times was the day following devoted. In our Presbyterian Churches this is a sacramental season. The children asked the Israelites of old: "What mean ye by this service?" (Ex. xii. 26) The sacred vessels passed from hand to hand have been passed from generations, and as a sacramentum, it is a renewal of our allegiance to the King and Head of the Church, and to all who, with us, are fellow-citizens of the household of God.

It is a service of remembrance, at a time of remembrance, for on the eleventh of the month, at the hour of eleven falls the two-minutes' silence—"Do this in remembrance of me."

Among the wreaths at the Cenotaph one year was one from the Salvation Army with the words: "He died for us!" Yes, truly! In the sense that all those for whom wreaths were laid also died for us. His mission meant martyrdom, sacrifice gladly given.

To what extent do we make any sacrifice for our Church, for our religion? There are those who do a great deal and do it gladly and willingly. We see many instances of it, and it is done without thinking of it as sacrifice, but just spontaneously. Let no one grudge to do anything for his Church. So and so doesn't attend, why should I do so? But why should you not do so? George Dawson, the famous Birmingham preacher, said, "Our days are Thine, let them be spent for Thee. Our days are few, let them be spent with care."

* * *

Again we have the happiness of recording a successful anniversary service of the York Street Congregation, Belfast; held in the Ulster Hall, with Dr. Agnew as preacher, the singing led by the Belfast Military Band, and solos by Miss Costigan. The report says that "hundreds were turned away." We hope they will come back to the United Service on November 19th. In days gone by, perhaps even now, we have heard the saying, "Ours is an unpopular cause." But evidently not with everybody, as our crowded churches everywhere at Harvest Thanksgivings have testified. We need the baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire,—all that that means—the enthusiasm and the love and the fellowship, and we rejoice that the arduous labour of minister and people at York Street should have had this success, for one congregation cannot be separated from the Church as a whole, "All one body we."

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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian can be obtained at the Depository, 35 Rosemary Street, Belfast.

OUR COUNTRY CHURCHES.

BY H. J. F. ORR.

Antrim

Built 1700. Lease dated 9th June, 1699. Restored 5th June, 1892.

MINISTERS

Archebald Ferguson	1645-1654
James Cunninghame	1656-1670
Thomas Gowan, M.A.	1672-1683
John Anderson, M.A.	1685-1688
William Adair	1690-1698
John Abernethy, M.A.	1703-1730
James Duchal, D.D.	1730-1741
Alex. Maclaine, M.A.	1742-1759
Wm. Campbell, D.D.	1759-1764
Wm. Bryson	1764-1810
James Carley, M.A.	1811-1861
James McFerran	1862-1871
Wm. Sunderland Smith	1872-——

Note—John Ridge is said to have been the First minister 1619-1636, he was an English Puritan, not a Presbyterian.

Ballee.

Congregation formed 1697. Church built 1721. 1st Church was at Ballyclander.

MINISTERS.

Wm. Smith	1701-1747
Robert Smith	1750-1787
James Patterson	1782-1798
Josiah Ker	1799-1809
David Whyte	1811-1871
John Porter	1860-1884
Jos. H. Bibby	1884-——

Ballycarry.

Date of Congregation 1646.

MINISTERS

Robert Cunningham	1646-1697
James Colham	——-1759
John Bankhead	1763-1833
Wm. Glendy	1812-1853
Thomas O'Gorman	1852-1854
Moore Getty	1854-——

Ballyclare.

Congregation 1655. Present Church opened 29th Oct., 1871.

MINISTERS.

Gilbert Simpson	1655-1662
Robert Patton	1671-1680
Thomas Tuft	1681-1713
Thomas Wilson	1711-1757
John Marshal	1751-1790
Futt Marshal	1785-1813
Wm. Heron	1813-1860
John Hall	1839-1884
Wm. Fielding	1885-——

Ballyhemlin

Congregation formed 1833. Present Church opened 1834.

MINISTERS

Wm. H. Doherty	1834-1838
Alex. Orr	1838-1869
James Cooper	1870-1872
James McFerran	1872-1896
Charles Thrift	1896-1910
John Barron	1911-——

Ballymoney

Congregation formed 1832.

MINISTERS

George Hill	1834-1836
Joseph McFadden	1837-1864
Wm. Napier	1864-1867
David Matts	1868-1908

Banbridge.

Congregation 1716

MINISTERS

Samuel Young	1717-1720
Arch. Maclaine	1720-1740
Henry Jackson	1743-1795
Nathaniel Shaw	1790-1812
James Davies	1814-1847
John Montgomery	1847-1867
Francis McCammon	1867-1885
Chas. H. Osler	1886-1890
Andrew B. Hamilton, LL.B.	1891-——

Cairncastle.

Congregation 1646. Church built about 1668.

MINISTERS

*Patrick Adair	1646-1674
John Campbell	1675-1714
Wm. Taylor	1715-1734
John Lewson	1728-1803
Thomas Alexander	1793-1851
James Mulligan	1833-1836
James McDowell	1837-1839
Robert Hall	1839-1876
John Jellie	1876-1880
Fredk. Thomas	1880-——

John Lewson's ministry was of record length 75 years.
*Patrick Adair author of Adair's M.SS. History of Irish Presbyterians.

FAR OUT FRIENDS.

"Far away fields look green;" so runs the old saying, but of course we all know they're not green. The fields of England are only green, *really* green occasionally. Last month after the long spell of dry weather they were grey, and even from the far away County Antrim hills they did not look green.

Leaving those charming blue hills of ours it was my privilege to travel across the seas and visit far out friends. Far out friends, I take to be those in foreign lands (England, America, etc.) who are brothers with us in the faith of Unitarianism. I crossed to Heysham from Belfast after a hearty send-off from York Street friends; I saw the greyness of England's town and countryside. Indeed the only green things in the country, at the time, were probably ladies' dresses, various kinds of paint (not ladies') and some of my countrymen. It's strange how "green" an Irishman looks on Heysham railway platform early in the morning. He makes inquiries about trains, he gets an answer, and he is no wiser than before . . . just "green." Of course, an Irish brogue, or even a County Antrim tongue, is understandable, but Lancastrians and certain Americans seem to speak another language altogether. Then, there are shades of green: some people are sea-green, others bear witness to the existent class-war, being green with envy towards the saloon passengers who probably have had good suppers and cosy berths during the night, and so feel fine in the morning.

From Heysham to Lancaster; there I alighted, negotiated a week-end return to Kendal and an excellent breakfast. From the hills of Antrim I was going to the hills of Westmoreland, there to fulfil a preaching engagement and meet the first of the far-out friends. I was with them on the morning of Saturday, 26th August.

The Kendal people are fine folks; judging from their names there is a good sprinkling of Scotch blood in them. Being part Scotch myself, perhaps that is why we got on so well together. The town itself is very delightful, rather more than a trifle old-fashioned in places, it tends to take the semblance of an old cathedral city. Its situation also, in lovely lakeland does not call for eulogy from my poor pen. Our friends in these delightful surroundings possess a very old and very beautiful chapel. It was first built in 1664, but has been rebuilt more recently. There is a good-toned old organ in the chapel, and at the back is a large-sized school-room fitted with an excellent stage. They are unfortunate in having no minister at the moment; perhaps to that cause could be ascribed a certain vacancy in the pews. Still, it was August, and thirty people at the evening service would shame quite a number of bigger churches than Kendal.

There was one thing in their service which I hadn't come across before; perhaps it could be made use of in our own churches; it was the short organ voluntary between the second lesson and the long prayer. Using music in this way before the prayer had a stimulating effect. It prepared the minister and the congregation for that very devotional exercise, so making it more effective. The opposite effect might be obtained should the organist take this innovation to be the opportunity for an exhibition of his playing prowess; and where the voluntary is ill-done or too long, there might be the danger of it breaking up the unity of the whole service.

On Monday I left Kendal for the capital of England, en route for America. Before quitting London for Southampton I rang up Essex Hall, the headquarters of English Unitarianism, and placed myself at their disposal as a messenger to the American Unitarian Association. It was holiday time, however, and nearly everyone was away, yet I received orders to convey greetings to Dr. Cornish and President Roosevelt. I'm sure it will be an agreeable surprise to all of you, as it was to me, to learn that the President of the A.U.A. should have precedence over the President of the U.S. In any case that is what Essex Hall taught me, but they may be working on some alphabetical system in sending out greetings.

Thursday morning saw me on the special boat train from Waterloo to the R.M.S. Olympic, amongst a very cosmopolitan crowd of people. There were coloured gentlemen of all hues, Indian squaws and braves, Americans of all sorts and conditions, English, Welsh and last, but not least, a few Irish. A delightful western brogue floated past me as I waited for the train to start. . . . I trailed him. . . . . his life-story was this: born in County Donegal 35 years ago, his mother was Irish but his father was English; he said he owed everything to his mother. "It's the Irish blood in me that's the best," he said. He was a typical Irishman, very much anti-England; the strange thing was that he wouldn't tell me his name. I wondered if it might be Stokes, or Sidy, or even Smith.

The Olympic lay in dock, looking like a huge skyscraper when viewed from the train

platform, Then when one got aboard she revealed solidity and strength, wedded to beauty of line and a fine charm; there was something about her that was a radiation, I think, of the character of those great countrymen of ours. The Olympic *is* a Belfast ship, the largest triple-screw steamer in the world. It is rather marvellous to think that a complete inspection of her interior necessitates a walk of nine miles. She has four funnels, and each one is wide enough to take two railway trains running abreast.

Almost 1,000 passengers got on board at Southampton, and soon after four small tugs took command of this mighty monster of the seas, and in an hour she was under way. There began an exciting and memorable voyage. Two hundred or more people joined the ship at Cherbourg, and amongst them, although I did not know it then, were far-out friends. Life on board ship is very pleasant because of the great social and friendly spirit that is soon evolved. There are no barriers of reserve, one is free to talk to everyone. So, on the second day, a lady from the next table in the dining room introduced herself to me as Mrs. Wingate from Chicago. Who is Mrs. Wingate? Let me tell you. At that moment I met the "house-mother," the Warden if you like to call it so, of Meadville Theological School, where I am going. We were soon close friends.

Next day, I accidentally met the father and brother of a student at Meadville—Messrs. Sawyer. Sawyer (sen.) is a State Senator of Massachussets, and at one time was a Congregational Minister. Sawyer (jun.) is a teacher, his sister is the Theological student. So before the voyage was half over there had been formed a very fine group of Unitarians and friends. Being so diverse in our opinions on many subjects, and so free in our expression of them, even bad days on the Atlantic would have passed speedily by, but as it was, the sun having every chance to do things to our health, and the sea having no chance whatever, the voyage was one of the best made by the Olympic and friends on board, across the Atlantic for many years.

Almost too soon we saw land ahead, almost too soon Liberty beckoned us to enter New York; just when we were beginning to realise the vastness of the Atlantic, we had to realise the post-card views we knew of New York's skyline.

We saw the actual line at sunset. It was awe-inspiring. It was also hope-inspiring, for if man by application of his mind, brain and brawn to the art of building can produce those great scrapers in New York city, what may we not expect if he will give the same application to the art of living aright.

I must stop now. Next time I shall begin by telling those interested how to pass the Customs easily.

JOHN MCCLEERY.

OBITUARY.

THE REV. MATHEW WATKINS.

The late Rev. Mathew Watkins in 1923-24 was Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland.

Mr. Watkins held many positions in Ashton-in-Makerfield. He was a governor of the Ashton Grammer School, a member of the Ashton-in-Makerfield and District Education Committee (No. 19 Area), and correspondent to the managers of the Shaw Memorial Schools, while he was the local secretary of the Miners' Distress Fund. He was also the secretary of the Bolton District Unitarian Ministers' Fraternal and he had been president of the Ashton Free Church Council for the past two years.

There were many manifestations of sympathy and regret at the funeral. Along the route to the Unitarian Church nearly all blinds were drawn, and the great esteem in which Mr. Watkins was held was in strong evidence.

Rev. L. Redfern, M.A., B.D., of Liverpool, a friend for many years, who officiated, paid tribute to the deceased gentleman's life and work. They were gathered to try to express what their hearts felt, brought together in reverence and sympathy, to share a common burden, a common loss, said the rev. gentleman. Sorrow was a natural tribute of the heart, and they were there to honnour and respect the deceased gentleman both as a minister and as a comrade. He first met the Rev. M. Watkins at College. His outstanding memory was the kindly welcome and encouragment the deceased gentleman gave to him. "I can feel even now," said the speaker, "the new confidence and assurance of that welcome." Referring to Mr. Watkins' work, and to his friendship with those in the Liverpool ministry and in Ireland, the speaker said: "Such a ministry may write inscriptions upon human hearts—the most enduring of earthly things; so let us therefore thank God, and take courage, you who have lost a minister and friend, and we ministers who have lost a comrade."

As the cortege left the church, Park Lane Wigan, the organist, Miss Elsie Derbyshire, played "O Rest in the Lord."

The cortege proceeded to the Liverpool Crematorium, where the remains were cremated.

The Sunday School officials carried the coffin. They were Messrs. M. Snowden, H. Bate, P. G. Bate, H. Brindle, F. Shaw, and W. Latham.

The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. Evan Watkins (brother and sister-in-law), Mrs. I. Evan, Mrs. J. Evans, Miss Lewis (sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. Lewis (brother-in-law and sister), and Rev. L. Redfern. Mrs. Watkins, who has been ill for a short time, was unable to attend the funeral.

Mr. N. Wright, Mr. A. Gilby, Mr. A. Britton, and Mr. Peter Gorton, Mrs. F. W. Darbyshire, Mrs. Fairless, and Miss Britton, accompanied the remains to the Crematorium.

AN APPRECIATION.
(By G. W. G.)

The Reverend Mathew Watkins has gone, and not least among them that shall miss him will be the Free Church Council in Ashton-in-Makerfield. He was a Unitarian by conviction, but a finer leader of the Evangelical Free Churches could not be found. Into all our deliberations he brought a breadth of thought that compelled every respect, because of the gracious way in which he presented his views. If sometimes he surprised those of a narrower creed by his generous thinking, he also challenged them by his earnest evangelism, for no man desired more the saving of the race from sin, and the winning of the nations for peace. All mistrust for a non-trinitarian creed vanished when Mr. Watkins was the expositor. For two years he had been the president of the Free Church Council, and in the chair always showed that faculty for drawing opposing views into a single resolution. He took the chair at all our public meetings, and never failed to speak.

When the General Election prevented our speaker coming to the annual meeting, at a few hours' notice he took the advertised subject, and stirred the gathering mightily for peace. His spiritual leading was never more in evidence perhaps than when he led the United Free Churches in the Communion Service on Easter Sunday. His sense of the awful majesty of God, and the example of Christ's willing obedience was so real, that everyone was humbled and heartened. He added a new dignity to our gatherings brought unusual charity into our deliberations, stirred within us all a keener sense of our calling. He has left us fitter to do our work by staying with us awhile.

SUBSIDY FUND.

The Treasurer begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following subscription :—

"A Friend" £1 0 0

Contributions should be addressed to the Manager, the Rev. Alfred Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland and Unitarian and Free Christian Laymen's League.

A UNITED SERVICE

WILL BE HELD IN

THE ULSTER HALL, BELFAST,

ON

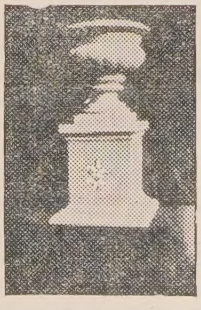
SUNDAY, 19th NOVEMBER, 1933,

At 7 o'clock.

Preacher: Rev. E. SAVELL HICKS, M.A.,

OF DUBLIN.

ALL FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.



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ORDINATION AT GLENARM.

Rev. Percival M. Lee, late minister of Christ Church, Bridgewater, Somerset, was ordained to the pastorate of the Old Glenarm Meeting-House on the 18th October.

Rev. Thomas Munn, Moderator of the Remonstrant Synod of Ulster and of the Presbytery of Templepatrick, preached the ordination sermon from the text, Luke x., 28, inculcating the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of Man, and the leadership of Christ.

Exposition of Presbyterian Church order was given by the Rev. Wm. G. Marsden, Ballycarry; interrogations by the Rev. Felix Holt, Ballymoney, and statement of principles by the new minister. This was followed by the ordination prayer by Rev. John M'Cleery, Raloo, followed by the laying on of hands of the Presbytery. The charge to the minister and congregation was given by the Rev. F. Holt. The ceremony concluded with the Lord's Prayer and Benediction by the new minister. Mrs. Robinson presided at the organ.

At the luncheon which followed in the Church Hall, Rev. Thomas Munn, Moderator, presided. The speakers were—The new minister, Rev. Dr. Agnew, York St., Belfast, and the Rev. J. H. Ewbank, B.A., B.D., Belfast; Rev. T. P. Waring, B.A., rector, Glenarm; Rev. G. Jackson, B.A., the Manse, Glenarm; Rev. Townley Tilson, M.A., Greyabbey; Rev. J. Miskimmin, B.A., late minister, Glenarm, and Rev. J. M'Cleery, Larne; Messrs. W. Robinson and James Galbraith.

BELFAST DOMESTIC MISSION

(FOUNDED 1853)

STANHOPE STREET, BELFAST.

The committee are pleased to announce the appointment of the Rev. William Eakin to the position of missioner as from the 1st December next. Mr. Eakin is a North of Ireland man who has recently returned from Canada, where he gained experience which will be valuable to him in this position. Taken in conjunction with his powers in the pulpit, as evidenced by his utterances at the recent Harvest Services at the Mission, it is believed that there is a bright future before the members of the Domestic Mission.

E. M. JACKSON, Hon. Sec.

REPORTS.

First Presbyterian Church, Belfast—The Rev. Nicol Cross, M.A., who has resumed his ministry after absence through illness, received a warm welcome back at a largely attended Congregational Social in the Central Hall on October 4th, after an excellent tea prepared by the Social Evenings Committee and a period spent in good fellowship. Mr. Robert McCrum, the Sunday School Superintendent took the chair and expressed the pleasure of the Committee and Congregation that Mr. Nicol Cross had survived a serious operation and after convalescence was able to take up duty among them again. He assured him of the respect and esteem in which the minister was held, and of their best wishes for many years more of work and happiness at the First Church. Mr. Nicol Cross in reply to the cordial welcome stated his satisfaction at being once more able to take up his duties in Belfast, though for a while yet he was ordered to restrict his activities and act with due prudence. He spoke of all the considerations and kindness which the Committee and the members of the Church had shown him, and the many tokens of good will, while he was in the Nursing Home and during his absence. And now they must go forward together to labour together according to their ability in the high service of God and Christ and humanity through the Church. An excellent performance of instrumental and vocal music, with recitations, arranged by the Organist, Mr. Taylor, brought a most happy and successful evening to a close.

On Sunday, October 8th, Harvest Thanksgiving and Sunday School Anniversary Services were held with large Congregations. The Church was beautifully decorated by members and friends, of the Sunday School, tea being provided by Mrs. R. M. Laird. In the morning the scholars and teachers occupied the front pews and brought the spirit of youth into the service, besides being a visible embodiment of the interest and responsibility of the Church's work for the rising generation, in which the minister insisted in his discourse, if a moral, spiritual civilization was to be maintained and the finest treasures of the religious experience of the past preserved for humanity. In the evening there was a special Musical Service, when selections from Mendelssohn's Oratorio, "Elijah," were rendered by the Organist, Mr. Albert Taylor, A.R.C.O., L.R.A.M. and the choir. The soloists were, Miss V. E. Curran, L.R.A.M. soprano, Miss L. V. Gordon L.R.A.M.

contralto, Mr. T. Corbett, tenor, and Mr. J. A. Laird, baritone. These special services always attract a specially large evening congregation and are a well known feature of church life and witness. Mendelssohn's "Eljah" is a powerful, dramatic, and moving rendering of the life and inner experience of the mighty prophet, not to be forgotten. The United School Service in the afternoon was conducted by the Rev. J. H. Ewbank, B.D. of Mountpottinger. It is always a reminder of our friendship in Sunday School work.

It is of interest to note that on Sunday, October 15th, when the half yearly Communion was held, the Rev. R. Nicol Cross was assisted by the Rev. William Wilson, who is a minister of the Church of Scotland, who preached at both diets of worship. Mr. Wilson is liberal in his theology and broad in his ecclesiastical sympathies. At morning service Mr. Nicol Cross made reference to a marble Tablet which has recently been placed on the wall of the Church "in memory of the six daughters of the Rev. William Bruce A.B.,—Margaret Hutton, Susan Bruce, Jane G. Bruce, Eliza Bruce, Maria Darbyshire, Charlotte Bruce." Memorials already exist in the Church to their distinguished grandfather the Rev.Dr Bruce, and their father, who was Professor of Greek and Latin in the Royal Academical Institution, and also minister of the Church from 1812 to 1867. The name of the Bruce family is deeply inscribed in the history and records of the First Congregation and the Tablet will be a further reminder to those who come after of that notable tradition. It is the gift of the grandaughters of the Rev. William Bruce, Miss Hutton, Mrs. Sinclair, and Miss Darbyshire.

Downpatrick—The Downpatrick Presbyterian Non-subscribing Church, for the harvest festival on Sunday, a day of serene loveliness, was adorned with the fruits and flowers of garden and field. Mr. R. A. Watson, of Belfast, sang with much acceptance—in the morning, 'The Lord is my Shepherd'; in the evening, 'Light in darkness.' Nor did the well-balanced choir fail to do justice to the anthem, 'I will feed My flock,' the solo part being capably taken by Miss Gertrude McMurray. Miss M. Dickson presided at the organ. Rev. A. L. Agnew, D.D., touched the hearts of the large congregation (over 235) in the morning as he discoursed on gratitude to God. To more than 400 worshippers in the evening, Rev. W. H. Townley-Tilson gave an inspiring address, based on St. Matthew vi., 6-13

Killinchy—Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on Sunday October 1st at noon and 7 p.m., also on Monday night at 7-30. These Services were particularly well attended. For years past Sunday morning attendance has been most gratifying and this time even more than ever, while Sunday Evening was very crowded. On this occasion we had the advantage of the services of the Rev. John Barron, of Ballyhemlin at all three Services. He preached appropriate sermons in which he emphasised the gratitude of human hearts for bounties showered on human kind. The Church was lavishly decorated by willing hands. The products of the year with grain of all kinds, fruits, plants and flowers of all descriptions were much admired by the crowds who came to worship and to show gratitude for mercies received. Appropriate Harvest Hymns were rendered throughout and an anthem entitled, "Praise the God of Harvest" was rendered by an augmented choir. We appreciate the services of those who gave valuable assistance. Our organist, Miss I. Russell, presided at the organ in her usual efficient manner. We thank all those who contributed to the success of our festival as well as to members of other denominations who came in such numbers.

Ballyhemlin—Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 1st. Preacher, Rev. D. J. Williams of Killinchy, who delivered an interesting and edifying discourse to a full church. Miss McMaster of Ballyhalbert kindly gave her services at the organ. The church was prettily decorated.

Belfast All Souls'—The Harvest Services were held on Sunday, 1st October. The subjects of the sermons were Morning, "Increasing Returns," and Evening, "Charity with Honour." At these services there was Special Music by an augmented Choir. There are vacancies in the Choir for all voices and volunteers will be cordially welcomed. Will those who feel disposed to assist in this valuable part of our public worship please communicate with the Organist? The date fixed for the Sale of Work is Saturday, 18th November. A Bridge Drive in aid of the Sale Funds was held on Wednesday, 18th October, at 86 Balmoral Avenue by the President of the All Souls' Branch of the Women's League. The Opening Day of the Badminton Club's season was Monday, 2nd October, and the Club will meet regularly throughout the season on Monday evenings. Will those who contemplate joining the Club please communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Miss A. F. Montgomery?—CALENDAR.

Banbridge—As in previous years, our beautiful church was most tastefully decorated with produce from the fields, country and garden; and, it being an exceptional year for blooms, these were forthcoming in great profusion. The children, bringing moss, berries and autumnal tinted leaves, had evidently enjoyed their rambles in the country. The ladies worked hard in arranging these wonderful harvest signs; and the decked pulpit formed a fitting centrepiece for a wonderful display. Around the gallery, in gold Old English lettering on a blue background, was the text "The Harvest is the End of the World; and the Reapers are the Angels" fringed from above with corn, flaming creeper and red dahlias. Mrs. Thompson, with her usual talent, presided at the organ; and the ably trained augmented choir led the singing in a manner worthy of the occasion. Especially praiseworthy was the rendering, with feeling and understanding, of the two anthems "Fear not, O Lord" and "Food and Gladness" (Composer: Caleb Simper) with Solo parts from Miss H. Stevenson and Mr. Hugh Chambers. There was a good collection for the Local District, and Royal Victoria Hospitals. The special preacher was a former minister here: Mr. Edgar Lockett from Holywood. He gave an appropriate and acceptable address from the text "Come and hear, all ye that fear God; and I will declare what He hath done for my Soul". Mr. Lockett received a warm welcome at the close of Service from his old friends.

Moneyrea—Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on Sunday and Monday evening, October, 1st and 2nd. The Meeting House was beautifully decorated by the ladies of the congregation who were ably assisted by the gentlemen, and all of whom were entertained to tea by Mrs. H. Frame, when the work was completed on Saturday evening. The preacher on Sunday morning and evening was the Rev. John McCleery of Raloo, whose appropriate sermons were much appreciated. The Monday evening service was conducted by the minister. The three Services were very well attended, the singing of the well known harvest hymns was inspiring. The choir led the praise and also gave a splendid rendering of the anthems—"Ripened Corn," and "Lord of the Harvest" at each of the services, Miss M. Doyle presided at the organ. The fruit, vegetables and flowers were afterwards sent to the Templemore Avenue Hospital. The Dramatic Society opened the season by holding a social in the Hall on Friday night, October 13th which was organised by the members and which proved to be very successful in every way.

Mountpottinger—Harvest Services were held on October 15th when good congregations were present at all three services. In accordance with tradition the Church was tastefully decorated by members of the Women's League and others. Our Minister took the morning Service but for the afternoon and evening we were favoured with a visit from Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A., whose discourses met with much approval. The afternoon Service was largely musical in character and we were pleased to have the assistance of Mr. Harvey and his choir from the Holywood Church. The combined choirs rendered an Anthem and also a Cantata, whilst a Quartette was sung by members of the Holywood Choir.. At the Evening Service Mr. P. Morris was the soloist. The Congregation has to record another loss by the passing of Mrs. Cowan after a protracted illness. To the many relatives who take an active interest in the welfare of the Congregation we tender sincere sympathy.—E.R.J.

Belfast Domestic Mission—Harvest Services were on Sunday, October 15th, at 3-30 p.m. and 7 p.m., when Rev. William Eakin of the United Church of Canada occupied the pulpit with great acceptance. Special music was rendered by the choir under the able direction of the organist, Miss Florence Newman, A.T.C.L., a solo was contributed by Mr. Wellwood Campbell at the afternoon Service. The church was tastefully decorated by members of the Mission and grateful thanks are tendered to all who contributed fruit, flowers and grain. Special mention is made of the gift of a miniature stack by Mr. Arthur Doyle, of Mountpottinger congregation, the flowers from Miss Hutton and Miss Carmichael and the apples from Mr. John Wilkinson.—E. M. Jackson, Hon. Sec.

Stanhope Street Women's League—Reopened on Monday, 9th October, with a devotional service in the Mission Church, conducted by Mrs E. R. Jackson. After tea, a letter was read from the former President, Mrs. A. Senior, who also presented to the branch a framed quotation to hang upon the wall. Suitable acknowledgement was made and the Hon. Sec. was requested to forward the resolution of thanks to Mrs. Senior. The branch will meet fortnightly, the next meeting to be on October 23rd, when Mrs. W. Newman will give a talk on "a trip round Ireland."—Miss Hanley, Hon. Sec.

York Street—The Congregation has now settled down to the regular work of the winter and members are being asked to remember that this is the tenth year since the Church was reopened and an effort is to be made to end the year with a membership and an income which will place the church on a sound footing. It is hoped to raise the membership to three hundred and fifty and bring the stipend and collections to three hundred pounds and to have a total attendance at the services and fellowship of at least six hundred every Sunday. There is every sign that this can be accomplished. The Ulster Hall Service which serves as a rally after the easier days of summer proved a greater success than ever. The Church as usual was kept open all day and many visitors availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing over it while the ladies prepared for the task of entertaining over eight hundred country and other friends. The first contingent arrived from Clough to be quickly followed by others from Raloo, Dromore, Ballycarry and Cairncastle. Others came individually by car and train from Larne and Lurgan and even from beyond the border. At six o'clock everyone made their way to the Ulster Hall and long before seven o'clock every seat was taken. By a previous arrangement members of York Street took the seats behind the speaker and afterwards gave the n up as they were required and contented themselves with standing in the corridors or returning to the Church to prepare for the entertaining of visitors afterwards. The music was again provided by Belfast Military Band while Miss Costigan sang for the sixth time. The collectors worked under the able direction of Mr. F. Robinson of Holywood. The collection was larger than in former years notwithstanding that there were no special collectors. After the Service members of the Church went home till ten o'clock so that there might be more space available for visitors. Naturally such a large service requires considerable organisation but everything went without a hitch the only regret being that it was impossible to accomodate the hundreds who were turned away. The Service has already succeeded in its main object of interesting more people in the Church and the following Sundays in spite of the good weather which still takes many of our people to the country and the absence of the Minister at Harvest Services, the Church and Gallery were filled. All our organisations are now working. On Tuesday the Swimming Club meets at the Falls Baths. The active membership has had to be restricted to those who attend the Church. The Dramatic Society is rehearsing on Thursdays having in hand four productions. The German Play "War Brides" will be given three nights at Armistice time. This is to be followed by the usual Pantomime and towards the end of the year we hope to produce Mr. Carnduff's "Machinery" and "Journey's End," under the auspices of the Little Theatre. The Verse Speaking Class also meets on Thursday nights with a growing membership. Friday night is being used for the Social Club and Saturday as usual for the Guild which seems to be enjoying a revival. A Sale of Work is being arranged for November with the object of still further reducing the debt which has been on the Church since reopening but which has been kept in hand in spite of the continual renovations of the past ten years. We have been happy to welcome several members who have been sent to us by Churches across the water. To our recent losses we have to add two young members. Miss Alice Stockman and Miss Jessie Matthews. The former was a faithful member of the Senior Sunday School. Through a long illness she steadily sent her subscription to the Church and her last message was one of thanks to York Street for the happy days she spent there. The latter was also a regular attender at the Guild and Evening Service and was very popular with many of our young people.—A.L.A.

Cairncastle—In the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, Cairncastle, inspiring harvest services were held on Sunday and Monday, 1st and 2nd October, and there were crowded congregations at each of the services. On Sunday the minister of the church, Rev. Thomas Munn, led the devotions, and on Monday the Rev. A. L. Agnew, B.A., D.D., of York Street, Belfast, officiated. Dr. Agnew is much sought after as a preacher on special occasions. An illuminating sermon based on Isaiah, chap. i., was delivered, and the reverend gentleman's visit was much appreciated by those who attended "The Old Meeting House" on Monday evening. Special music was rendered by the choir with Miss A. McClelland as solist. The church was tastefully decorated with gifts of fruit and flowers, while the congregational singing of the harvest hymns was an inspiration.

Ulster District Women's League—There was an air of expectancy about the members of the District League on the occasion of the visit of Mrs. C. Severs of Lewes, President of the London District League and Chairman

of the Central Committee. Mrs. Severs has many interests in public work in her home town, and also in the organisations of the Unitarian Church in London and district. By reason of this members were anticipating something which was, unfortunately, not delivered. Mrs. Severs has both charm and personality, but neither from the pulpit nor the platform were these gifts given fair play. Possibly Mrs. Severs was directed to her choice of subject matter by her committee, but Headquarters should realise that the Ulster District is quite capable of assimilating something of a different character to that which was presented. Practically every speaker from across the channel has, and Mrs Severs was no exception, merely elaborated information which is to be found in a free pamphlet issued by the League, and all of which is well known to our members. It is surely a pity that the expenses inevitable to such a visit should be incurred for results which are not wholly satisfactory. But if the mental fare did not satisfy, the musical fare provided by Comber and Larne did, as also the edible fare given by the Larne and First Church branches. The latter once again showed their generosity to the District League, by presenting to the Hon. Treas. the entire proceeds from the tea. Mrs Severs will carry back memories of Irish songs and dances, and Irish hospitality, also mementoes in the form of Irish linen, presented by Larne and Comber branches. The Publications Sec. was gratified by the generous response to the request to purchase League literature and Christmas cards, of which further supplies may be obtained at 35 Rosemary Street.—E.M.J.

Mountpottinger Women's League.—On 26th September the branch opened the 10th session. A service in the Church was conducted by Mrs. J. H. Ewbank, Miss Ashworth presiding at the organ. After service the members met in the Schoolroom for a social cup of tea, and at 9 o'clock the Annual Meeting commenced. The Branch President (Mrs. Ewbank) occupied the chair. The report of work done during the year was read by the secretary, and the financial statement, which was most satisfactory, was presented by the treasurer. At the nomination of officers and committee, all were re-elected. Before concluding the meeting arrangements were made for a "Sale of Work" in December. On October 6th a very enjoyable Children's Party was organised by Mrs. Ewbank. The proceeds from same were passed over to Miss Dorothy McMinn, treasurer of the Young People's Crafts Class. On 9th October members of the League met for a social evening. Musical Games were indulged in, and Mrs. Ewbank gave two readings from Tennyson, which were much appreciated. Before closing an enjoyable evening, an appeal was made to the members present for contributions to the tea to be given to the Holywood and Moneyrea friends, who kindly helped with the music at the Harvest Afternoon Service. The result of the appeal was an abundance of good things.

Raloo—Harvest services were held on Sunday, 15th Oct. Rev. A. L. Agnew, B.A., D.D., conducted the morning service, and highly impressed a large audience with his address on the real harvest. In the evening the Church was crowded, when Rev. A. M. Bell, B.A., delivered an appropriate and inspiring sermon which was much appreciated. The praise portion of the services were an inspiring feature. The harvest hymns were sweetly sung by an augmented choir, the junior members of the Sunday School taking a prominent part. Vocal solos were contributed by Miss Brown and Miss Hawkins. The work of decorating was carried out by the teachers and scholars in the Sunday School.

DEATH.

SLIPPER—On Sunday, September 10, at 7 Trevor Hill, Newry, George John, much loved husband of Lucy Slipper, and minister of Newry and Warrenpoint N.S.P.C.I. Churches, aged 64.

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